

Dear Friends,

Three years ago, we founded Rise to provide low-income immigrants pro bono legal services so that they could rise to their full potential. Since then, we've served hundreds—helping many obtain legal work authorization and pathways towards permanent residency. Our clients have included asylees; victims of trafficking, crimes and violence; Dreamers; and residents taking the momentous step of gaining U.S. citizenship. Like our ancestors, and perhaps yours, they fled persecution, famine, violence and other threats in search of a place where they could start anew. With your support, we've helped make their dream a reality through the provision of free legal advice and representation. We're proud of the work we've done, profoundly grateful for the support of those who've helped us and excited for what's next.

To celebrate the work you've helped make possible, we are pleased to highlight some of our accomplishments and some of the people we have helped. We hope this inspires you to learn more about how you can help others rise to their potential. We're also excited to share our goals for the year ahead and announce several new board members who will guide our continued growth. Each brings a unique perspective and a shared commitment to advancing Rise's mission.

We're so grateful for your partnership. You will be hearing from us in the months ahead, but please do not hesitate to reach out to us anytime at contact@risebyenvoy.org.

Thank you for your support and best wishes in the year ahead.

Nancy Sandifer Barillaro

Nancy Sandifer Barillaro, JD
Executive Director & Board Member

Richard Burke

Richard Burke, JD
Founder and Board Member,
Former Chief Executive Officer, Envoy Global

OUR IMPACT

Every day we are reminded that hope and perseverance can lead to life-changing outcomes. Our clients have suffered through wars and destruction, violence and cruelty, language barriers, health scares, and separation from family; all in an effort to find safety and peace for themselves and their loved ones.

SOME OF THE CLIENTS WE HAVE HELPED INCLUDE:

Teenage girls from a war-torn country who suffered through death and persecution, but worked tirelessly for an opportunity to find safety and a chance at life in the U.S. Both are now students in U.S. schools – safe, thriving and assimilating, working towards a future with a focus on entering the medical field and education.

Doctors fleeing a terrorist regime, war, and sure death who are now able to

work in the U.S., using their training to work at medical centers and research institutions where their work directly impacts the health and well-being of Americans.

Victims of domestic violence and abuse, who with our support felt safe and free to report their abusers without risking their ability to stay in the U.S. with many of these victims working in fields considered essential services.

Families of U.S. citizens living abroad were granted permission to visit the United States to care for their U.S. citizen relatives facing life-threatening illnesses, including cancer and high-risk pregnancies. We are pleased to report that in every case, the U.S. citizen recovered and attributed their recovery in large part to the presence and support of their family during treatment and convalescence.

CLIENT TESTIMONIAL

“ I am truly grateful. It is impossible to express in words the gratitude I feel for all the help you have given me and my family. After two bad experiences with other lawyers, I thank God for guiding us to you, and helping us to have an opportunity to fix our immigration situation. I know this is the beginning of a long wait, but we are once again full of hope.

OUR PARTNERS

Our successes wouldn't have happened but for the support of our donors and partners.



FOGLIA FAMILY FOUNDATION

We are grateful to be the recipient of a large, multi-year commitment from the Foglia Family Foundation to expand access to humanitarian immigration legal services for low-income individuals and families in the Chicago region. The Foundation selected Rise for its growing impact in communities with significant need for accessible, high-quality immigration legal support. We're honored to be recognized by such an esteemed Foundation and excited to expand our impact.



CORPORATE IMMIGRATION PARTNERS & ENVOY GLOBAL

The volunteer attorneys, paralegals, and translators at Corporate Immigration Partners provided untold hours of pro bono legal services. Envoy Global provided financial support and administrative services. Their generosity allows every dollar you donated to go directly to our mission of helping others.



CLINIC LEGAL

Last year we joined the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC Legal), a national nonprofit network for immigration attorneys which affords us access to expert insights into the most recent immigration law updates, and a network of other nonprofit legal immigration service providers dedicated to serving low-income immigrant communities.



OUR COMMUNITY OF DONORS

We would like to thank all our donors – anonymous and named – who made our work possible. Donations ranged from \$25 to \$100,000 – and every gift made a real and tangible difference in the lives of those we served.

LOOKING AHEAD

The need for our services is profound, growing and in the news every day. Our ability to deliver professional, timely, and empathic assistance is established. Our affiliation with CIP and Envoy Global affords us access to top-flight legal assistance and professional, back-office support ensuring that 100% of donations go straight to supporting those we serve. With this foundation in place, our goals for the year ahead are straightforward and ambitious:

OUR 2026 GOALS:

Service: We exist to help people rise to their potential by enabling them to live and work in the U.S. via legal immigration channels. In 2026, we seek to multiply the number of people we serve.

Fundraising: Success expanding our service requires that we increase our fundraising. Our goal in 2026 is to build on the momentum established in 2025 and dramatically increase both our donor roll and our total donations received. Money raised will allow us to add full-time immigration paralegals and attorneys to amplify the work we do.

Partnerships: Aligning ourselves with other thought and service leaders will enable us to do more and better work in 2026.

Awareness: Last, raising awareness about Rise in the legal, business, donor and immigrant communities will expand our partnerships, increase our fundraising and allow us to help more people.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS



JOHN FEELEY

John Feeley is a former career U.S. ambassador who served for 28 years in the U.S. State Department, including as Ambassador to Panama, Deputy Chief of Mission in Mexico City, and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs. A skilled negotiator and cross-cultural leader, his work has consistently operated at the intersection of government, media, and international affairs.

John currently serves as Executive Director of the Center for Media Integrity of the Americas, a nonprofit foundation promoting high-quality journalism and freedom of expression throughout the Western Hemisphere. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Envoy Global and is a frequent commentator in English- and Spanish-language media. John brings a deep commitment to democratic institutions, public trust, and global cooperation to his service on the Rise board.



MARK SHRIVER

Mark Shriver is a longtime advocate for children and families whose career spans public service, nonprofit leadership, and education. He helped establish the National Commission on Children and Disasters and later founded Save the Children Action Network to advance bipartisan policy solutions on behalf of children nationwide.

Mark is a former member of the Maryland House of Delegates and a bestselling author. He currently serves as President of Don Bosco Cristo Rey High School and its Corporate Work Study Program, a college-preparatory high school serving students across the Washington, D.C. region. In addition, he is a Senior Advisor at Save the

Children, where he has led and expanded domestic education and emergency-response programs in underserved communities. Mark brings a lifelong commitment to opportunity, dignity, and service to his role on the Rise board.



KIMBERLY SIMONTON

Kimberly Simonton serves as Chief Financial Officer of Envoy Global, where she oversees finance, legal and human resources. She brings more than 30 years of global finance and operations experience across healthcare manufacturing, distribution, and technology businesses within both private equity-backed and publicly held organizations.

Prior to joining Envoy Global, Kim served as Chief Financial Officer of Intelligent Medical Objects, where she led finance, accounting, legal, IT, and security functions and helped guide the company through a successful sale in 2022.

Earlier in her career, she held CFO roles at Avalign Technologies and Surgical Solutions and spent nearly two decades in publicly held healthcare companies including Hospira, CareFusion, and Cardinal Health. She also served for more than a decade on the Board of Directors of The Cradle, a 100+ year old adoption agency, based in Evanston, Illinois which reflects her long-standing commitment to supporting children and families. Kim brings deep financial expertise and a steady, mission-centered approach to her role on the Rise board.



MARC SONDHEIMER

Marc Sondheimer is an Academy Award-winning producer and senior executive with more than two decades of leadership experience at Pixar Animation Studios, where he oversaw award-winning productions, managed multi-million-dollar budgets, and led complex creative collaborations. His career has blended creative leadership with strategic and financial oversight in highly complex environments.

A second-generation American whose father immigrated to the United States, Marc brings a personal understanding of the immigrant experience and the pursuit of opportunity. His global perspective and values-driven approach inform his leadership and service. Marc contributes creative insight, strategic thinking, and deep empathy to his role on the Rise board.

THANK YOU

With your help, we will continue to help those seeking to protect their right to live and work legally in the U.S. Together, we can change lives and see vulnerable populations rise to their potential. Thank you!